

HEALEY ALS Platform Trial

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Healey Center

Sean M. Healey & AMG Center
for ALS at Mass General





1. Why Now?

2. Why Platform?

Scientific and Statistical Advantages

3. **HEALEY ALS
Platform Trial**

ALS is the neuromuscular disease with the largest drug pipeline

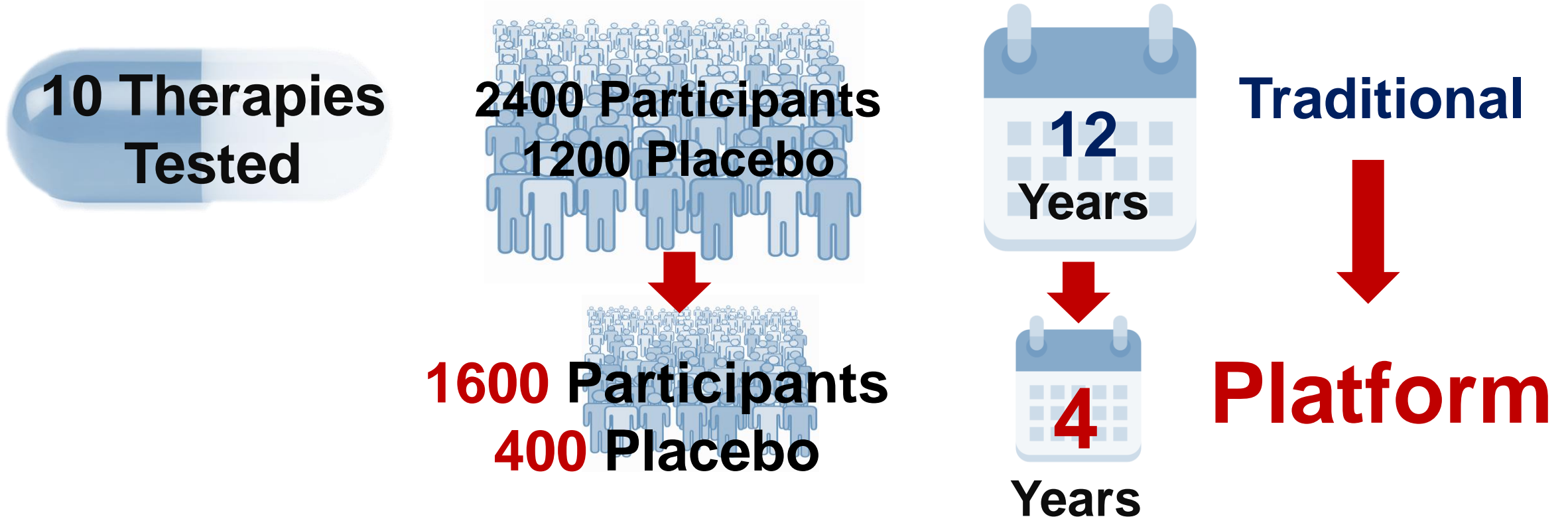
- ❖ Over 130 companies in ALS space
- ❖ Thousands of investigators worldwide - many targets

“I lost the privilege of working on the human time clock on January 6, 2018 – the ALS clock is a lot faster”

Sandy – Person with ALS

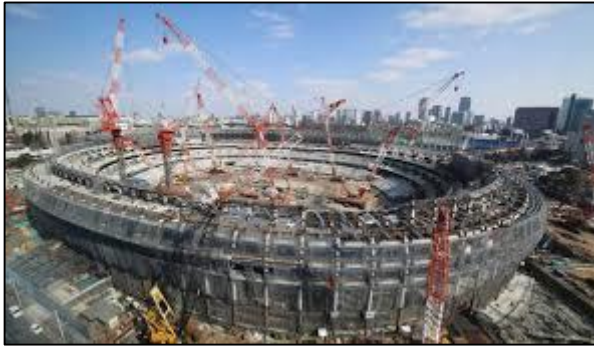
- ❖ Platform approach decreases time to finding effective therapies

When will we find first effective therapy?



**Assumes 10% of therapies tested are effective with a 30% slowing in rate of progression*

Traditional



	Intervention
Disease	Therapy A

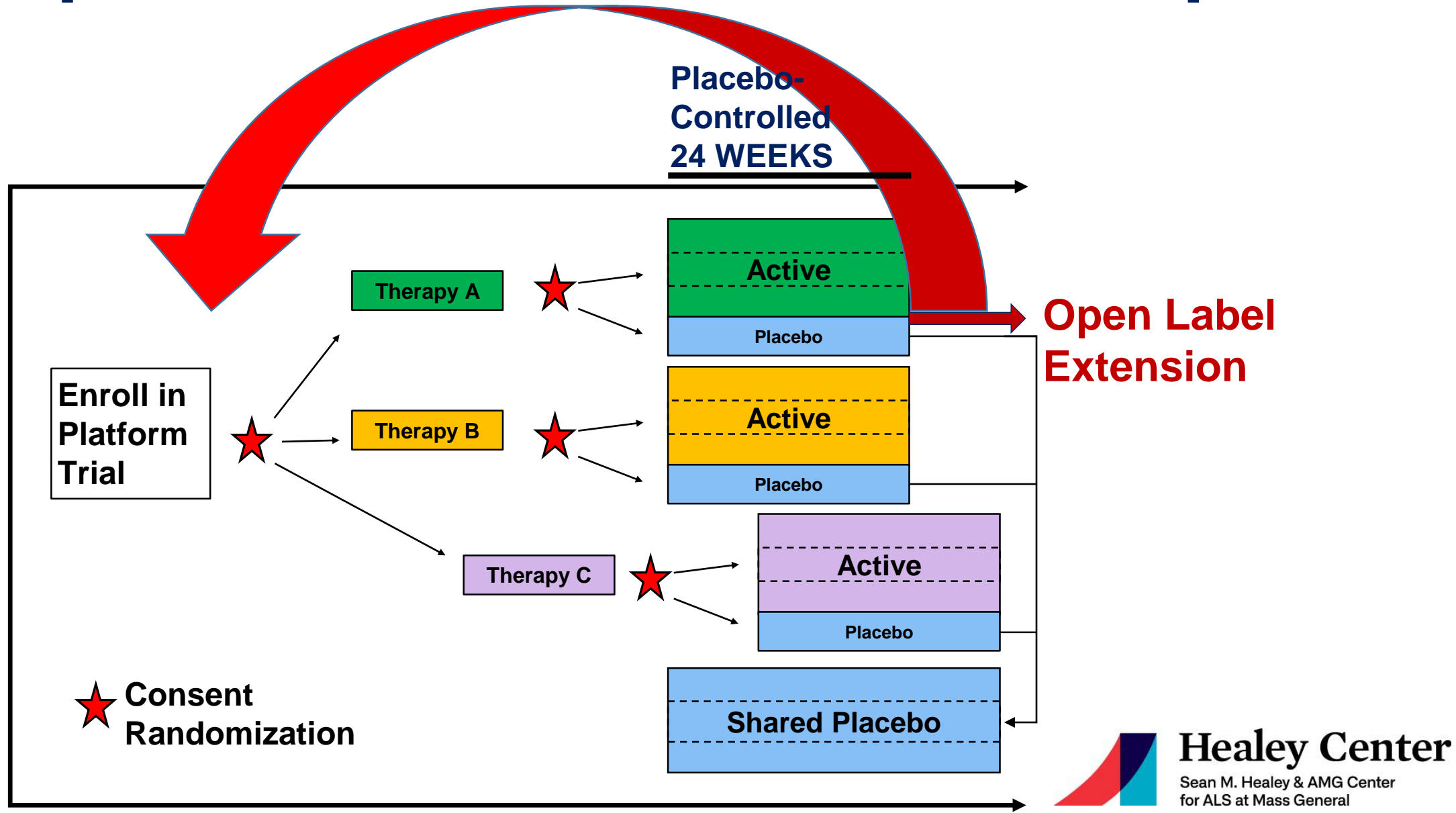


Platform



	Intervention		
Disease	Therapy A	Therapy B	Therapy C

Less placebo, more access, more options



ENDPOINTS

Primary Endpoint

Change in disease severity - **ALS Functional Rating Scale-Revised (ALSFRS-R)**

Secondary Endpoints

1. Change in respiratory function - slow vital capacity (SVC)
2. Change in muscle strength - hand held dynamometry (HHD)
3. Survival
4. Treatment-specific biomarkers as applicable

Exploratory Endpoints

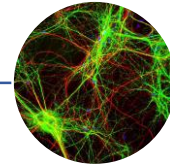
Safety Endpoints

Exploratory Endpoints

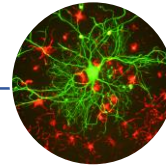
**Endpoint
Development
Engine**



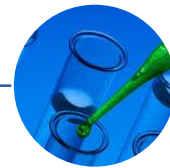
DNA



Neurofilaments



PBMCs > Stem Cells

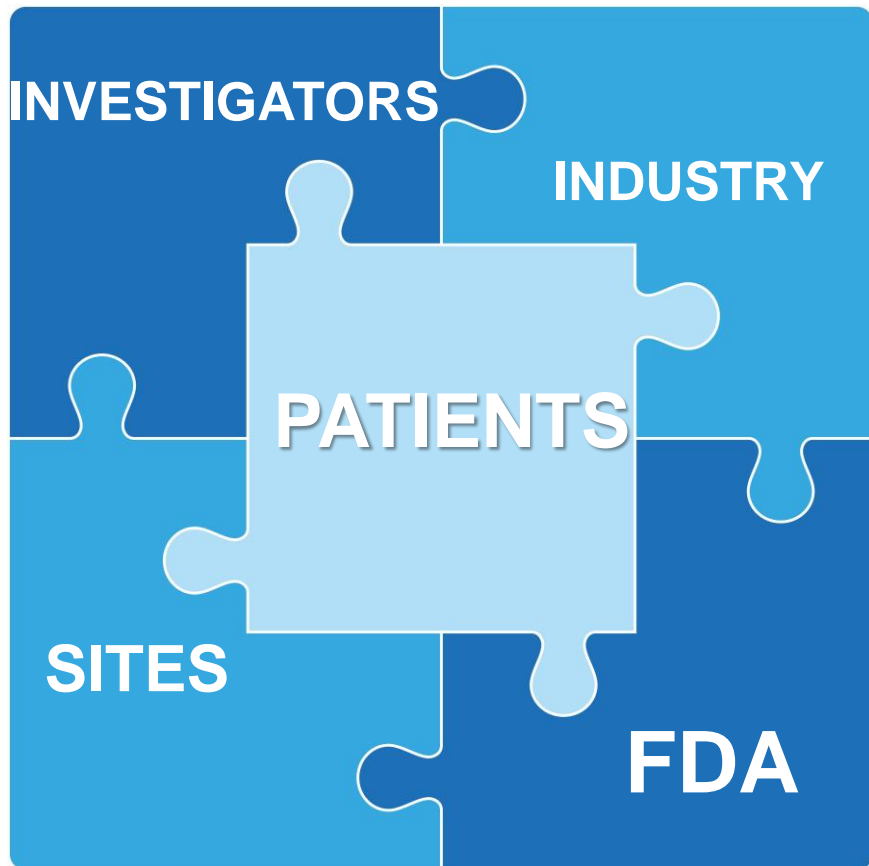


Biomarkers (Blood, Urine, CSF)



Speech / Digital

Bringing together a community to launch the first platform trial for ALS very fast



Concept to Launch



1 Year



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ENGAGED TRIAL DESIGN COMMITTEE



**Jinsy
Andrews**



**James
Berry**



**Merit
Cudkowicz**



**Sabrina
Paganoni**



**Jeremy
Shefner**



**Eric
Macklin**



**Melanie Quintana, PhD
Kristine Broglio, MS
Michelle Detry, PhD
Ben Saville, PhD**



NEALS Advisory Panel

Senda Ajroud-Driss	Americo Fernandes	Erik Piro
Ettore Beghi	Angela Genge	Jeffrey Rosenfeld
Michael Benatar	Matthew Harms	Zachary Simmons
Robert Bowser	Bjorn Oskarsson	Nimish Thakore
Amy Chen	Steve Kolb	David Walk
Sheena Chew	Shafeeq Ladha	Jim Wymer

Experienced Clinical Operations Team



Marianne Chase
NCRI Project Management



Annette DeMattos
NCRI Grants & Contracts



Megan Hall
BNI Monitoring & Outcomes training



Alex Sherman
NCRI Clinical Trial Systems



Hong Yu
NCRI Data Management



Eric Macklin
MGH Biostatistics



- Raji Bhat
- James Chan
- Derek D'Agostino
- Catherine Gladden
- Brittney Harkey
- Katie Jentoft
- Lindsay Pothier
- Rebecca Randall
- Melissa Ricker
- Aileen Shaughnessy
- Lisa Spagnuolo
- Eric Tustison
- Jason Walker

54 TRIAL-READY SITES



1 Central IRB



20+ years experience; 57 ALS studies with >20K participants already completed including 21 industry-sponsored trials

Patient Engagement

**PALS/CALS
Advisory
Panel
(May 2019)**

**ALSA
National
Advocacy
Conference
(June 2019)**

**NEALS
Webinar
(August
2019)**

**PALS/CALS
Advisory
Panel
(September
2019)**

“Platform trials may possibly be the best thing I have seen since diagnosis!”

“Thank you for ensuring that patient voices are involved in every facet of this effort”



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MASSACHUSETTS
GENERAL HOSPITAL



NEALS

Northeast Amyotrophic
Lateral Sclerosis
Consortium

Therapy Selection: Selection Committee From Healey and NEALS Science Advisory Committees

Request for Proposals (RFP)

- ❖ Almost 30 applications from 10 countries
 - industry and academic
- ❖ Five were selected to enter the platform now

How to Participate:

<https://www.massgeneral.org/neurology/als/research/platform-trial>



Zilucoplan – complement C5 inhibitor



Verdiperstat – myeloperoxidase inhibitor



CNM-Au8 – gold nanocrystals



Pridopidine – Sigma 1 Receptor agonist



IC14 – immunotherapy targeting CD14

Partnership with the FDA: very positive meetings

IND submission 12/2019

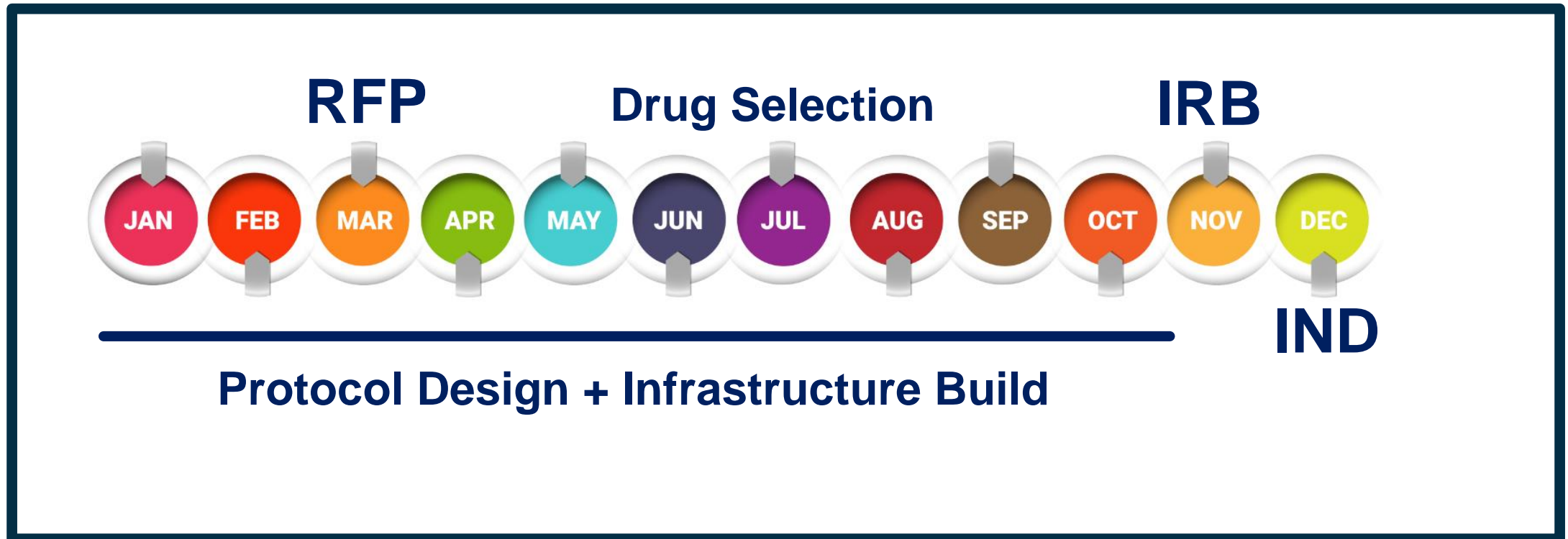
➤ **July 9, 2019** – FDA Type C Meeting in Washington DC



➤ **November 5, 2019** – Brought three companies together to meet with us and the FDA to finalize the HEALEY ALS Platform trial design.



Concept to Launch = 1 year



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Melanie Quintana, PhD
Senior Statistical
Scientist



Kristine Broglio, MS
Director & Senior
Statistical Scientist

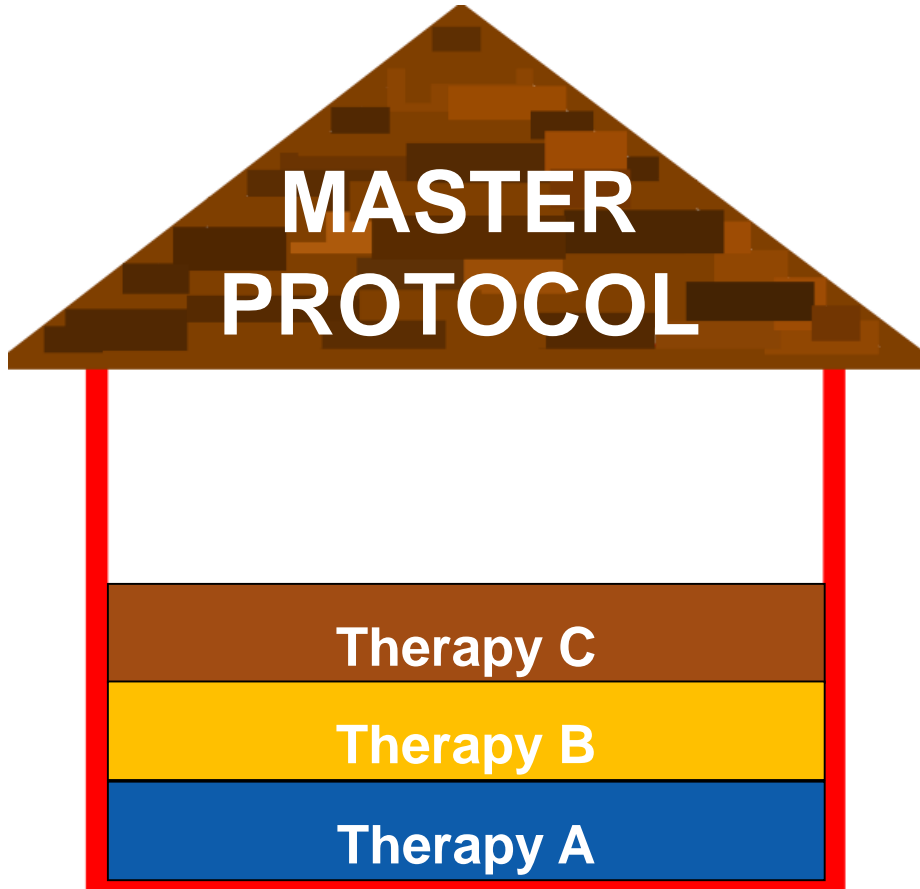


Ben Saville, PhD
Senior Statistical
Scientist



Michelle Detry, PhD
Director, Adaptive Trial
Execution &
Senior Statistical Scientist

ALS Platform Trial



The trial is governed by a [Master Protocol](#) – a common protocol for multiple therapies

- Defines global rules that govern the therapies being investigated and how participants flow through the trial

[Appendix:](#) The mechanism through which therapies are added to the platform and attached to the master protocol

REVIEW ARTICLE

THE CHANGING FACE OF CLINICAL TRIALS

Jeffrey M. Drazen, M.D., David P. Harrington, Ph.D., John J.V. McMurray, M.D., James H. Ware, Ph.D.,
and Janet Woodcock, M.D., *Editors*

Master Protocols to Study Multiple Therapies, Multiple Diseases, or Both

Janet Woodcock, M.D., and Lisa M. LaVange, Ph.D.

From the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring, MD. Address reprint requests to Dr. LaVange at the Office of Biostatistics, Office of Translational Sciences, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Blvd., Silver Spring, MD 20993, or at lisa.lavange@fda.hhs.gov.

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HIGH-QUALITY EVIDENCE IS WHAT WE USE TO GUIDE MEDICAL PRACTICE. The standard approach to generating this evidence — a series of clinical trials, each investigating one or two interventions in a single disease — has become ever more expensive and challenging to execute. As a result, important clinical questions go unanswered. The conduct of “precision medicine” trials to evaluate targeted therapies creates challenges in recruiting patients with rare genetic subtypes of a disease. There is also increasing interest in performing mechanism-based trials in which eligibility is based on criteria other than traditional disease definitions. The common denominator is a need to answer more questions more efficiently and in less time.

A methodologic innovation responsive to this need involves coordinated efforts

Master Protocol Overview

- **Primary Endpoint**
 - Change in disease severity through 6 months
 - ALS Functional Rating Scale-Revised (ALSFRS-R)
- **3:1 randomization** for each therapy, Active Treatment vs. Placebo
 - Regimen: A therapy being investigated; includes active and matched placebo
 - Shared placebo among all regimens
 - Uses concurrent and non-concurrent controls
 - Inclusion/Exclusion: Broad ALS patient population
- **Adaptive Trial**

Master Protocol Primary Analysis

Bayesian Repeated Measures of ALSFRS-R

- Model the linear rate of progression in ALSFRS-R for control participants
- **Treatment Effect:**
Percent Slowing in the rate of progression relative to control
- **Increases power relative to simplified analyses**
- **Accommodates additional platform complexities**
 - Regimen-level differences of control arm
 - Time-trend effects in rate of progression of control arm
 - Covariates: ALSFRS-R baseline value and pre-slope
 - Mortality: Exponential proportional hazards time to event with shared treatment effect

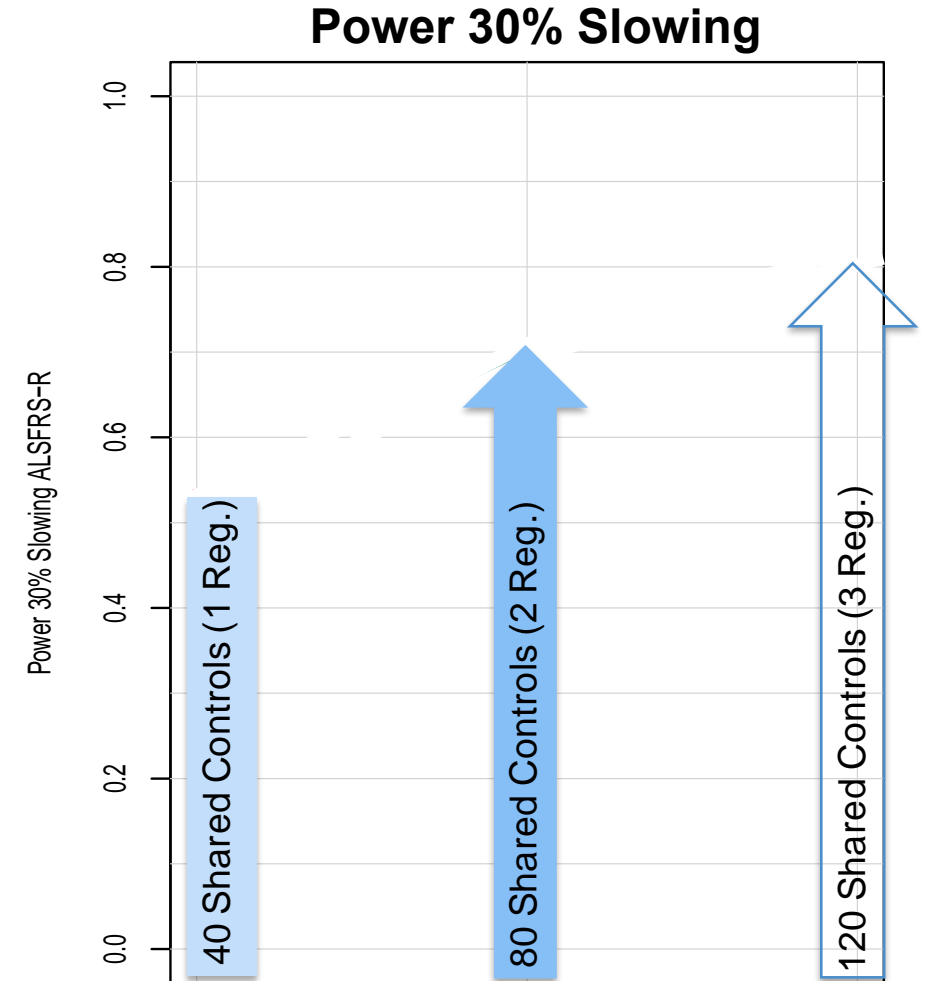
Shared Control Across Regimens

Share ALL controls across all regimens including:

- Different modes of administration
- Minor differences in inclusion /exclusion
- Concurrent and non-currently randomized

Analysis Model accounts for:

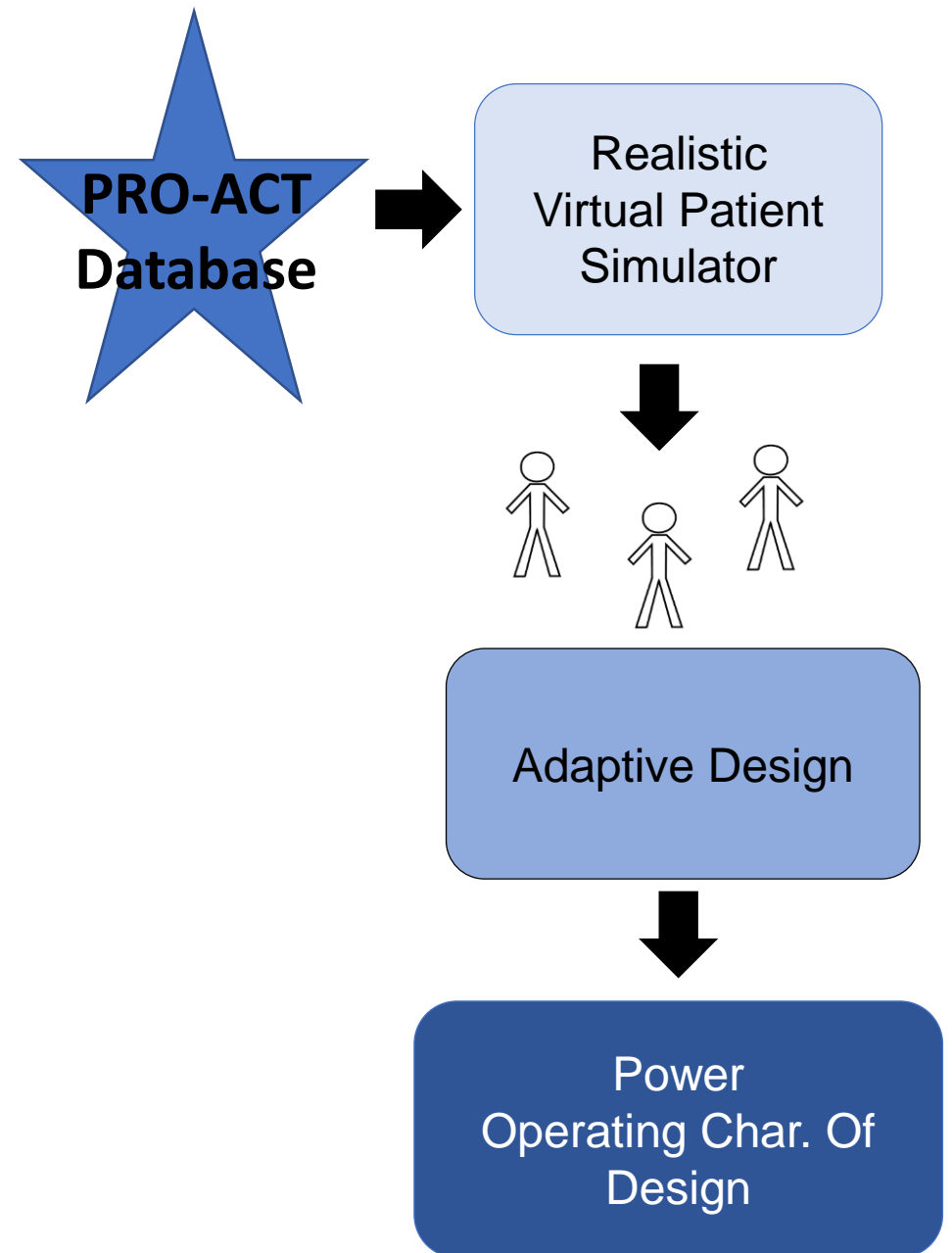
- Differences in controls over time in analysis (time-trend effect)
 - Concurrent vs. non-concurrently randomized controls
- Potential additional unexplained differences in controls across regimens (regimen-specific random effect)
 - Mode of administration
 - Different minor inclusion/exclusion



**N=160 per Regimen; 3:1 Rand.; Type I Error: 2.5%*

Clinical Trial Simulation

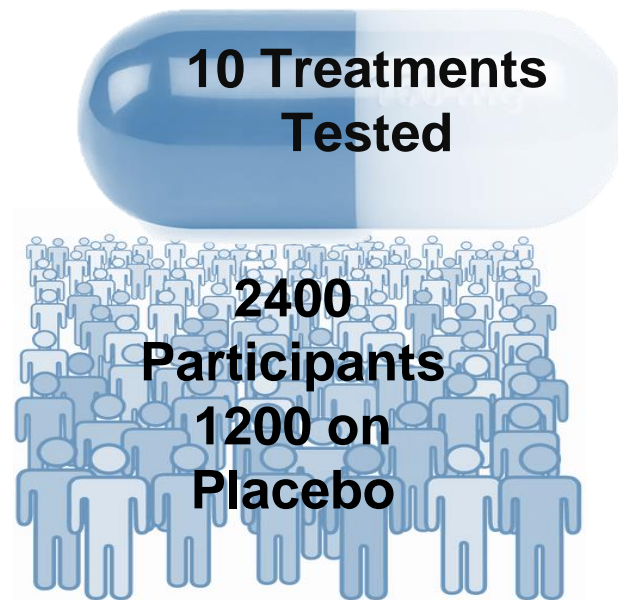
- Understand operating characteristics of proposed design
- Optimize design under key trial parameters
- Quantify Efficiencies of Proposed Platform Trial over Traditional



When will we find the first effective treatment?

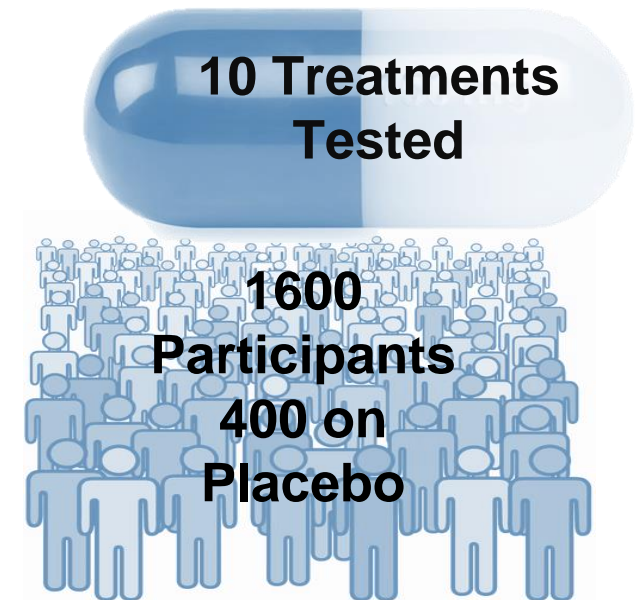
• Traditional Drug Development

- Sequence of fixed 1:1 trials
- Each N=240 with 120 treated and 120 placebo
- Lag of 3 months between trials



• Adaptive Platform Trial

- Perpetually enrolling max. of 3 regimens
- Max N=160 with 120 treated and 40 controls
- Shared controls across regimens



**Assumes 10% of therapies tested are effective with a 30% slowing in rate of progression*

Summary



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Platform trials can greatly accelerate the path to effective treatments for ALS

There is strong support for the platform approach - regulators, industry, clinician scientists, and patients

This is a perpetual trial and will continue to test more interventions until cures are found for all people with ALS

To participate:

<https://www.massgeneral.org/neurology/als/research/platform-trial>



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